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REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 15-16. Claims 1-12 have previously been canceled. Claims 13-14 and 17 remain pending in the application. Applicants amend the specification for a minor correction, amend claim 13 to incorporate the features of canceled claims 15-16, and amend claim 17 for clarification. No new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the priority claim and the receipt of all certified copies of priority documents in the parent application. Applicants also request that the Examiner indicate acceptance of the drawings.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claims 16-17 contain allowable subject matter, and respectfully submit that the provided reasons for allowability include only the non-exhaustive interpretations of the Examiner, which should in no way limit the scope of the allowable claims. Applicants amend claim 13 to incorporate the features of claim 16 and the features of intervening claim 15. And Applicants amend claim 17 for clarification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow claim 13 and claims 14 and 17 dependent therefrom.

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,205,167 to Kamgar et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,095,047 to Von Pieverling et al.; claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamgar et al. in view of Von Pieverling et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,375,141 to Takahashi; and claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamgar et al. in view of Von Pieverling et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,043,988 to Brglez et al.

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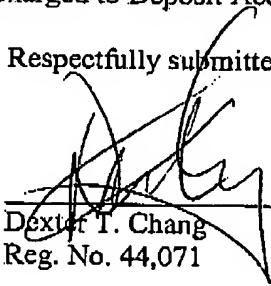
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Again, Applicants amend claim 13 to incorporate the features of claims 15-16, and respectfully requests that the Examiner allow claims 13-14 and 17.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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